CHAPTER V.

Financial Results.

62. The total receipts and expenditure during the last two years are as follows:—

	Actuals, 1888-89.	Actuals, 1889-90.	Increase.	Decrease.
Receipts ..... Rs.	4,15,867	6,26,762	2,10,895	...
Expenditure A. Conservancy & Works ,,	1,85,884	3,11,423	1,25,539	...
Do. B. Establishment ..... ,,	1,00,227	98,036	...	2,191
Total .....Rs.	2,86,111	4,09,459	1,23,348	...
Net Revenue ... ,,	1,29,756	2,17,303	87,547	...

The net revenue of the year is the largest that has ever been obtained in the Sind Circle. Firewood and charcoal, chiefly supplied to the Railway, &c., are the main items, and during the year under report from these sources the department realized Rs. 4,20,381, at the cost of Rs, 2,80,435, the net profit being Rs. 1,39,946. This is most satisfactory. There has been, however, a further reduction in expenditure under B. Establishment of Rs. 2,191. Since the year 1886-87 there has been a reduction under this head of Rs. 15,577, which is, I consider, very doubtful policy, when there has been a very large increase in area, income and expenditure.

General Remarks.

63. Colonel McRae has left the following note on record:—

"I inspected the greater part of the reserves in Upper and Central Sind, but had not time to go down to Lower Sind. The forests I inspected were in a splendid state of preservation, and the evidence of careful protection left very little to be desired. The state of some of the inland reserves is very unsatisfactory for want of water, but this is beyond the control of this department, as the canal power in the district is insufficient to spare water for the irrigation of reserves. This is a question that requires very careful study and representation to Government in the public interests."

"The want of irrigation does not only retard the growth of trees but causes an absence of grazing for cattle, and I think the latter is quite as important a consideration as the former, both as regards the comfort and well-being of the people and the forest revenue from grazing fees."

"I inspected the books and records of all the Divisional Offices and found them in a satisfactory condition."

"The Divisional Forest Officers have done their duty with zeal and efficiency, and the conduct of the subordinate establishment has been satisfactory."

64. Mr. Permanand, Accountant, and Mr. Lilaram, Head Clerk in the Conservator's Office, continue to deserve the praise recorded by Colonel McRae in last year's report.

W. S. HEXTON,

Acting Conservator of Forests, Sind Circle.